

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 58

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Lawrence Dyer on the celebration of his 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Dyer celebrated his 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday on December 20, 2020, a milestone that was commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer has lived a blessed life, having experienced firsthand the most eventful and productive years in American history; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Dyer was born on Parker Branch in Troup County on December 20, 1917, and attended school at Beech Grove; and

WHEREAS, a member of our nation's Greatest Generation, Mr. Dyer was drafted into the United States Army in 1941 and proudly served with the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Division in the South Pacific during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Dyer was discharged on September 29, 1945, at Fort McPherson, Georgia; he received a number of commendations and medals for his service, including the Combat Infantry Badge, the Marksmanship Medal Rifle, the Marksmanship Medal Pistol on horseback, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the Philippines Liberation Ribbon with two Bronze Service Stars, the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, the World War II Lapel Button, and the World War II Victory Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, upon his return home, Lawrence Dyer worked as a farmer and carpenter for many years in Macon County, where he resides to this day; and

WHEREAS, a man of devout religious faith, Lawrence Dyer served his church as a Sunday School teacher and clerk for twenty-six years; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Dyer was joined in marriage with Vergie Freeman, and the couple enjoyed many happy years together before her death; he later married Minnie Gammon and shared many years of marriage with her before her passing; and

WHEREAS, a beloved family patriarch, Mr. Dyer celebrated his birthday with his children, Mary Jane, Chester, Judy, Peggy, Patricia, and David, as well as his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in his eleventh decade, Lawrence Dyer is still an active and productive member of society who is admired for his wisdom, guidance, and generosity; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Lawrence Dyer on the celebration of his 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday, wishing him many happy returns of the day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.